

WEST ALLIS BEAUTIFICATION MINUTES
Monday, November 12, 2012

Present: Mike Rushmer, Mary Johnson, Sharon Plucinski, Charlene Dempsey, Virginia Stuller

OLD BUSINESS:

The previous meeting was the awards program therefore there are no minutes to approve.

No new information/status on the sculpture located at 64th and Burnham; Mike will contact development to determine if there is any further news.

Members, again, felt that the Awards Ceremony was successful. Committee noted that the Patriotic Award winners did not receive flags, on the assumption that most already had flags. Instead the winners received yard-ornament type items in a red, white and blue theme. There was some disappointment expressed that several winners did not appear in person nor did they send surrogates. Mike pointed out that winners are informed in writing of the date and time of the ceremony at the same time they are notified of their award. Charlene suggested follow-up individual, notification via telephone as a reminder of the ceremony.

There was absolutely no response to our “press release” regarding the front porch awards. It was suggested that next year we submit the “release” to the reporter who covers West Allis for the “NOW” online and Thursday supplement to the Journal.

NEW BUSINESS

There are two new members of the Beautification Committee: Lori Kay Horvath for the 4th aldermanic district. Judy Hutto for the 5th district.

There was a short discussion of porch award signs. Mike indicated that the art teacher who was instrumental in assisting with the design of the patriotic award signs is no longer employed by the school district. Virginia will investigate whether we can develop a design through the School District or other sources. The cost will be discussed at the January meeting.

There was a discussion of whether the committee should publish in the City newsletter the criteria for commendable properties i.e. no plastic flowers, chipped paint. Mary suggested that we discuss the criteria at the next meeting in January. Charlene will provide a past synopsis of the Beautification Committee which was provided by Mayor Bell when she asked Charlene to join the committee. These comments could be added to the existing guidelines which Mike will bring to the next meeting. The committee would like to develop a mission statement for the committee.

Virginia passed out her proposal for Condemnable Property Awards. There was a brief discussion. Charlene believed that Ted Atkinson should be made aware of this proposal. She will provide him with a copy of the proposal. Virginia will provide a copy to the Mayor. Discussion will be held at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were none

STAFF REPORT

Mike was asked about the vacant property at 76th & Hicks. He indicated that it is a privately owned property that has undergone extensive environmental clean-up and will require continual monitoring.

No new trees were planted this fall; the need to concentrate on watering recently planted trees delayed the tree removal and stumping operations.

Emerald Ash Borer is being address with preventative injections and monitoring.

The nativity in front of City Hall has been refurbished; a new Christ child was purchased.